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a male civil  
Old Turkic

ain. 2. To a  
er hand: She  
in response.  
E ongeagn,

urse opposite  
into forcible  
3. In contact  
he tree. 4. In  
against fate.  
dgment. 6. In  
against a fair  
f: food stored  
om: protection  
drew a check  
site to; facing.

n leader of the  
arim (b. 1936)

Absence of or  
[NLat. < Gk.  
+ gala, galakti,

nall, long-tailed,  
found in the Old

Gk. Myth. The  
the Trojan War  
nia; killed by his  
Y.  
sexual reproductive  
unmarried, var. of

o-mas) adj. Biol.  
n of male and fe-  
Lat. agamus, un-  
gamos, marriage;

o-mo) n. Asexual  
or parthenogenesis.  
[GENESIS.]  
Guam, on the W

an lily. [NLat. Aga-  
Gk. anthos, flow-

a state of wonder  
pen. 2. Wide open.  
l. Disinterested,  
surstian love for oth-  
er love feast accom-  
pagé, love.]  
a'gär-ä'gär', a'gär-  
from certain marine  
culture media and a  
products. 2. A culture  
for Malay agar-agar.  
of various mushrooms  
genera, having large  
beneath. 2. The dried  
in the genus Fomes.  
a kind of fungus <  
a town in Sarmatia  
odolphe). 1807-73.  
first noted for his study

ocene Epoch extending  
1, and SW Ontario.  
ous variety of chalcid-  
clouding. 2. Games. A  
iss imitation of it. 3. A  
sher tipped with agar.  
1/2 points. [ME achate,  
(influenced by Gk. aga-  
tates.)  
a, usu. one column wide  
sified advertisements.  
numerous plants of the  
is of the New World and  
rd-shaped leaves. [NLat.  
m. of agaios, noble.]  
SW MA on the Connect.  
635. Pop. 27,323.

one has existed; duratio

of life. 2. The time of life when a person becomes qualified to  
assume certain civil and personal rights and responsibilities;  
legal age: *under age*; *of age*. 3. One of the stages of life: *at an  
awkward age*. 4. The state of being old; old age: *hair white  
with age*. 5. Often *Age*. a. A period in the history of human-  
kind marked by a distinctive characteristic or person: *the  
computer age*. b. A period in the history of the earth, usu-  
shorter than an epoch: *the Ice Age*. 6. a. The period of history  
during which a person lives: *a product of his age*. b. A gen-  
eration: *ages yet unborn*. 7. ages. Informal. An extended pe-  
riod of time: *left ages ago*. — *v.* aged, ag-ing, ag-es. — *tr.*  
1. To cause to become old. 2. To cause to mature or ripen  
under controlled conditions: *aging wine*. — *intr.* 1. To be-  
come old. 2. To manifest traits associated with old age. 3. To  
develop a certain quality of ripeness; become mature: *cheese  
aging at room temperature*. See *Syns* at *mature*. [ME < OFr.  
age < VLat. \**aeiaticum* < Lat. *aetās*, *aetāt-*, age. See *alw-*.]  
— *ag'er n.*

— *age suff.* 1. Collection; mass: *sewerage*. 2. Relationship; con-  
nection: *parentage*. 3. Condition; state: *vagabondage*. 4. a. An  
action: *blockage*. b. Result of an action: *breakage*. 5. Resi-  
dence or place of: *vicarage*. 6. Charge or fee: *cartage*. [ME < OFr.  
< VLat. \**aeiaticum*, abstract n. suff. < Lat. *-aticum*, n.  
and adj. suff.]

ag-ed (ä'jid) adj. 1. Being of advanced age; old. 2. Charac-  
teristic of old age. 3. (äjd). Having reached the age of: *aged  
three*. 4. (äjd). Brought to a desired ripeness or maturity: *aged  
cheese*. 5. Geol. Approaching the base level of erosion. — *n.*  
Elderly person considered as a group. — *ag'ed-ly adv.*  
— *ag'ed-ness n.*

A-gee (ä'jē), James. 1909-55. Amer. writer noted esp. for his  
novel *A Death in the Family* (1958).

age group *n.* All the people of a particular age or range of ages.

age-ing (ä'jīng) *n.* Chiefly British. Var. of *aging*.

age-ism also ag-ism (ä'jiz-əm) *n.* Discrimination based on  
age. — *age'ist adj.* & *n.*

age-less (ä'j-lis) adj. 1. Seeming never to grow old. 2. Existing  
forever; eternal. — *age'less-ly adv.* — *age'less-ness n.*

Ag-e-nais (ä'zha-nä') or Ag-e-nois (-nwä'). A historical re-  
gion of SW France.

a-gen-cy (ä'jən-sē) *n., pl. -cies*. 1. The condition of being in  
action; operation. 2. The means or mode of acting; instru-  
mentality. 3. A business or service authorized to act for oth-  
ers: *an employment agency*. 4. An administrative division of  
a government or an international body. [Med.Lat. *agentia* <  
Lat. *agens*, *agent-*, pr.part. of *agere*, to do. See *AGENT-*.]

agency shop *n.* An establishment in which a union represents  
all employees regardless of union membership but requires  
that nonmembers pay union dues or fees.

a-gen-da (ä-jen'da) *n., pl. -das*. A list or program of things to  
be done or considered. [Lat., pl. of *agendum*, *agendum*. See  
*AGENDUM*.]

**Usage Note:** In Modern English a phrase such as *item on  
the agenda* expresses the sense of the Latin singular form  
*agendum*, and the plural form *agenda* is used as a singular  
noun to denote the set or list of such items, as in *The agenda  
for the meeting has not yet been set*. If a plural of *agenda* is  
required, the form should be *agendas*.

a-gen-dum (ä-jen'dəm) *n., pl. -da (-dä)* also -dums. Some-  
thing to be done, esp. an item on a program or list. [Lat.,  
neut. gerundive of *agere*, to do. See *ag-*.]

a-gen-e-sis (ä-jen'i-sis) *n.* Absence or incomplete develop-  
ment of an organ or body part.

a-gent (ä'jənt) *n.* 1. One that acts or has the power or au-  
thority to act. 2. One empowered to act for or represent an-  
other: *an insurance agent*. 3. A means by which something is  
done or caused; an instrument. 4. A force or substance that  
causes a change: *a chemical agent*. 5. A representative or of-  
ficial of a government: *an FBI agent*. 6. A spy. [ME < Lat.  
*agens*, *agent-*, pr.part. of *agere*, to do. See *ag-*.]

a-gent-ial (ä-jen'shəl) adj. Of, relating to, or acting as an  
agent or agency.

A-gent Orange (ä'jənt) *n.* A herbicide containing trace  
amounts of the toxic contaminant dioxin that was used in the  
Vietnam War to defoliate areas of forest. [From the orange  
identifying strip on drums in which it was stored.]

a-gent pro-vo-ca-teur (ä-zhän' prō-vō'kä-tör') *n., pl.*  
*agents pro-vo-ca-teurs* (ä-zhän' prō-vō'kä-tör'). A per-  
son employed to incite suspected persons to commit acts that  
will make them liable to punishment. [Fr.: *agent*, agent +  
*provocateur*, instigator.]

age of consent *n.* Law. The age at which a person is legally  
considered competent to give consent, as to sexual inter-  
course.

age of reason *n.* 1. An era in which rationalism prevails, esp.  
the period of the Enlightenment in England, France, and the  
United States. 2. An age at which a person is considered ca-  
pable of making reasoned judgments.

age-old (ä'jöld') adj. Very old or of long standing.

ag-e-a-tum (ä-jä-rä'təm) *n.* 1. Any of various New World  
plants of the genus *Ageratum* in the composite family, esp. *A.*  
*floridanum*, having showy, colorful flower heads. 2. Any

of several other plants having flower clusters similar to the  
ageratum. [NLat. *Agēratum*, genus name < Gk. *agēratos*, age-  
less: *a-*, without; see *A-* + *gēras*, old age; see *gera-*.]

A-ges-i-la-us II (ä-jēs'ä-lä'əs). 444?-360? B.C. Spartan king  
(399?-360?) who defended Sparta during the Corinthian  
War (394-387).

ag-gie<sup>1</sup> (äg'ē) *n.* Games. A playing marble. [AG(ATE) + -IE.]

ag-gie<sup>2</sup> (äg'ē) *n.* Informal. 1. An agricultural school or col-  
lege. 2. A student enrolled at such a school or college. [AG-  
(ICULTURAL) + -IE.]

ag-gior-na-men-to (ä-jör'nä-mēn'tō) *n., pl. -tos*. The process  
of bringing an institution or organization up to date; mod-  
ernization. [Ital. < *aggiornare*, to update: *a-*, to (< Lat. *ad-*;  
see *AD-*) + *giorno*, day (< Lat. *diurnus*, daily; see *DIURNAL*).]

ag-glom-er-ate (ä-glōm'ä-rät') *tr. & intr.v. -at-ed, -at-ing.*  
*-ates*. To form or collect into a rounded mass. — *adj.* (-är-it).  
Gathered into a rounded mass. — *n.* (-är-it). 1. A confused or  
jumbled mass; a heap. 2. A volcanic rock consisting of round-  
ed and angular fragments fused together. [Lat. *agglomerare*,  
*agglomerat-*, to mass together: *ad-*, to + *glomerare*, to form  
into a ball (< *glomus*, ball).] — *ag-glom'er-a-tive* (-ä-rä'tiv,  
-är-ä'tiv) *adj.* — *ag-glom'er-a'tor n.*

ag-glom-er-a-tion (ä-glōm'ä-rä'shən) *n.* 1. The act or process  
of gathering into a mass. 2. A confused or jumbled  
mass.

ag-glu-ti-nate (ä-glōt'n-ät') *v. -nat-ed, -nat-ing, -nates.*  
— *tr.* 1. To cause to adhere, as with glue. 2. *Ling.* To form  
(words) by combining words or words and word elements.  
3. *Physiol.* To cause (red blood cells or bacteria) to clump  
together. — *intr.* 1. To join together into a group or mass.  
2. *Ling.* To form words by agglutination. 3. *Physiol.* To  
clump together; undergo agglutination. — *n.* See *AGGLUTINA-*  
TION 2. [Lat. *agglutinare*, *agglutināt-*: *ad-*, to + *glutinare*, to  
glue (< *gluten*, glue).] — *ag-glu-ti-nant adj.* & *n.*

ag-glu-ti-na-tion (ä-glōt'n-ä'shən) *n.* 1. The act or process  
of agglutinating; adhesion of distinct parts. 2. A clumped  
mass of material formed by agglutination. 3. *Ling.* The for-  
mation of words from morphemes that retain their original  
forms and meanings with little change during the combination  
process. 4. The clumping together of red blood cells or bac-  
teria, usu. in response to a particular antibody.

ag-glu-ti-na-tive (ä-glōt'n-ä'tiv, -ä'tiv) *adj.* 1. Tending to-  
ward, concerning, or characteristic of agglutination. 2. *Ling.*  
Of, relating to, or being a language in which words are  
formed primarily by means of agglutination.

ag-glu-ti-nin (ä-glōt'n-in) *n.* *Physiol.* A substance, such as  
an antibody, that causes agglutination. [AGGLUTIN(ATION) +  
-IN.]

ag-glu-tin-o-gen (äg'lōt-tin'ä-jən, ä-glōt'n-ä-jən) *n.* *Physiol.*  
An antigen that stimulates the production of a particular ag-  
glutinin, such as an antibody. [AGGLUTIN(EN) + -GEN.] — *ag-*  
*glu-tin'o-gen'ic* (äg'lōt-tin'ä-jen'ik, ä-glōt'n-ä-jen'ik) *adj.*

ag-grade (ä-gräd') *tr.v. -grad-ed, -grad-ing, -grades*. To fill  
and raise the level of (the bed of a stream) by deposition of  
sediment. — *ag-gra-da'tion* (äg'rä-dä'shən) *n.* — *ag-gra-*  
*da'tion-al adj.*

ag-gran-dize (ä-grän'diz', äg'rän-) *tr.v. -dized, -diz-ing.*  
*-dizes*. 1. To increase the scope of; extend. 2. To make great-  
er in power, influence, stature, or reputation. 3. To make  
appear greater; exaggerate: *aggrandize an argument*. [Fr.  
*agrandir*, *agrandiss-* < OFr.: *a-*, to (< Lat. *ad-*; see *AD-*) +  
*grandir*, to grow larger (< Lat. *grandire* < *grandis*, large).]

— *ag-gran'dize-ment* (ä-grän'diz-mənt, -diz'z-) *n.* — *ag-*  
*gran'diz'er n.*

ag-gra-vate (äg'rä-vät') *tr.v. -vat-ed, -vat-ing, -vates*. 1. To  
make worse or more troublesome. 2. To rouse to exasperation  
or anger; provoke. [Lat. *aggravare*, *aggravāt-*: *ad-*, to +  
*gravare*, to burden (< *gravis*, heavy; see *G*-era-1-).] — *ag-*  
*gra-vat'ing-ly adv.* — *ag-gra-va'tive adj.* — *ag-gra-va'tor*  
*n.*

**Usage Note:** It is sometimes claimed that *aggravate*  
should be used only to mean "to make worse" and not "to  
irritate." But the latter use dates back as far as the 17th cen-  
tury and is accepted by 67 percent of the Usage Panel. As  
H.W. Fowler wrote, "the extension from aggravating a per-  
son's temper to aggravating the person himself is slight and  
natural."

ag-gra-vat-ed assault (äg'rä-vät'id) *n.* Law. An assault that  
is more serious than a common assault, esp. one performed  
with an intent to commit a crime.

ag-gra-va-tion (äg'rä-vä'shən) *n.* 1. The act of aggravating  
or the state of being aggravated. 2. A source of continuing,  
increasing irritation or trouble. 3. Exasperation.

ag-gre-gate (äg'ri-git) *adj.* 1. Constituting or amounting to a  
whole; total: *aggregate sales*. 2. Bot. Crowded or massed into  
a dense cluster. 3. Composed of a mixture of minerals sepa-  
rable by mechanical means. — *n.* 1. A total considered with  
reference to its constituent parts. 2. The mineral materials  
used in making concrete. — *tr.v.* (-gät') -gat-ed, -gat-ing.

-gates. 1. To gather into a mass, sum, or whole. 2. To  
amount to; total. — *idiom.* In the aggregate. Taken into ac-  
count as a whole. [ME *aggregat* < Lat. *aggregatus*, p.part. of



James Agee

ä pat	oi boy
ä pay	ou out
är care	öö töök
ä father	öö bööt
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī pit	th thin
ī ple	th this
ir pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ä about
ō paw	item

Stress marks:

ˈ (primary);

ˑ (secondary), as in

dictionary (dik'shə-nēr'ē)

vocal or instrumental part, within which most of the tones lie. [*test* < Lat. *testiura*, web, structure. See **TEXTURE**.]

**test**<sup>1</sup> (tāl. n. 1. A procedure for critical evaluation; a means of determining the presence, quality, or truth of something; a trial. 2. A series of questions, problems, or physical responses designed to determine knowledge, intelligence, or ability. 3. A basis for evaluation or judgment. 4. *Chem.* a. A physical or chemical change by which a substance may be detected or its properties ascertained. b. A reagent used to cause or promote such a change. c. A positive result obtained. 5. A cupel. — *v.* **test**<sup>2</sup> + **ed**, **test**<sup>1</sup> + **ing**. **tests**. — *tr.* 1. To subject to a test; try. 2. a. To determine the presence or properties of (a substance). b. To assay (metal) in a cupel. — *intr.* 1. To undergo a test. 2. To administer a test. 3. To achieve a score or rating on tests. 4. To exhibit a given characteristic when subjected to a test. [*ME*, *cupel* < *OFr.*, *por* < Lat. *testū*, *testum*.] — **test**<sup>1</sup> + **abil** + **ty** n. — **test**<sup>1</sup> + **able** *adj.*

**test**<sup>2</sup> (tĕst) *n.* A hard external covering, as that of certain amoe-  
bas, dinoflagellates, and sea urchins. [Lat. *testa*, shell.]

tes·ta (tēs'tā) *n.*, *pl.* -tae (-tē'). The often thick or hard outer coat of a seed. [Lat., shell.]

**tes·ta·cean** (tē-stā'shən) *n.* Any of various rhizopods of the order Testacea, characterized by the presence of a shell. [*<* NLat. *Testācea*, order name *<* Lat., neut. pl. of *testāceus*, covered with a shell *<* *testa*, shell.] — **tes·ta'cean** *adj.*

**tes·ta·ceous** (tĕ-stā'shas) *adj.* 1. *Biol.* a. Having a hard shell or shell-like outer covering. b. Composed of a shell or shell-like material. 2. *Color.* Having the reddish-brown or brownish-yellow hue of bricks. [*Lat. testaceus* < *testa*, shell.]

tes·ta·cy (tēs'tā-sē) *n.* Law. The condition of being testate.  
tes·ta·ment (tēs'tā-mənt) *n.* 1. Something that

**tes-ta-ment** (tes'tā-mənt) *n.* 1. Something that serves as tangible proof. 2. A statement of belief; a credo. 3. **Law.** A written document providing for the disposition of a person's property after death; a will. 4. **Testament. Bible.** Either of the two main divisions of the Christian Bible. **Testamentary.**

two main divisions of the Christian Bible. 5. *Archaic*. A covenant between human beings and God. [ME, a will < Lat. *testāmentum* < *testāri*, to make a will < *testis*, witness. See *trei*.] — *testāmentum*, *testāri*.

**tes·tate** (tēs'tāt') *adj.* *Law.* Having made a legally valid will before death. [ME < Lat. *testatus*, p.part. of *testāri*, to make one's will. See **TESTAMENT**.]

**tes·ta·tor** (tēs'tā'tər, tē-stā'tər) *n.* Law. One who has made a legally valid will before death. [ME *testatour* < AN < Lat. *testātor* < *testāri*, to make one's will. See **TESTAMENT**.]

**es·ta·trix** (tē-stā'trīks) *n.*, pl. **-trī·ces** (-trī-sēz'). *Law.* A woman who has made a legally valid will before death. [Lat., fem. of *testātor*, testator. See **TESTATOR**.]

**test case *n.* Law:** A legal action whose outcome is likely to set a precedent or test the constitutionality of a statute.

**test-cross** (tĕst'krōs', -krōs') *Genet. n.* A cross between an individual exhibiting the dominant phenotype of a trait and an individual that is homozygous recessive for that trait in order to determine the genotype of the dominant individual. — **test'cross'** *n.*

**test-drive** (tést' drív') *tr.v.* -drove (-dröv'), -driv·en (-driv'ən), -driving, -drives. To drive (a motor vehicle) to evaluate it.

**tes·ter<sup>2</sup>** (rēs' tər, rē'stər) *n.* A canopy, as over a bed or pulpit.  
[ME < Med. Lat. *testrum* < L. Lat. *testa* = shell < *testis* = witness]

**test·er**<sup>3</sup> (tēs'tər) *n.* See **teston** 2. [Alteration of **TESTON**.]

**testic·u·lar** (tēs'tik'yə-lar) *adj.* Of or relating to a testis.

**testic·u·late** (tĕ-stĭk' yə-lĭt) *adj.* 1. Having the shape of a testicle; ovoid. 2. *Bot.* Having two oblong ribs, as some

**s·ti·fy** (tēs' tə-fī') *v.* -fied, -fy·ing, -fies. —*intr.* 1 To make

2. To express or declare a strong belief, esp. to make a dec-

3. To make a statement based on personal knowledge in support of an asserted fact; bear witness. 4. To

2. To state or affirm under oath. 3. To bear witness to; provide evidence. — *tr.* 1. To declare publicly; make known.

side evidence for. [ME *testifien* < Lat. *testificāri*: *testis*, witness; see *trel-* + *-ficārī*, -fy.] — *tes'ti·fl·ca'tion* (-fī-kā'-

•ti-mo-ni-al (tēs'tə-mō'nē-əl) *n.* 1. A statement in sup-

port of a particular truth, fact, or claim. 2. A written affirmation of another's character or worth; a personal recommendation. 3. Something that is recommended.

commendation. 3. Something given in appreciation of a person's service or achievement; a tribute. — *adj.* Relating to or constituting a testimony or testimonial.

ME < OFr., of evidence < LLat. *testimōniālis* < Lat. *testi-*

•ti-mo•ny (tēs'tā-mō'nē) *n.*, *pl.* -nles. 1.a. A declaration by a witness under oath, as that given before a court.

such declarations, spoken or written, offered in a legal case or deliberative hearing. 2. Evidence in support of

assertion; proof. 3. A public declaration regarding a religious experience. 4.a. The stone tablets inscribed with the Ten Commandments.



ă pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
âr care	ōō took
ā father	ōō boot
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī pit	th thin
ī pie	th this
ir pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ə about,
ô paw	item

Stress marks:  
' (primary);  
' (secondary), as in  
dictionary (dīk'shə-nēr'ē)